

Prince George's Cemetery Committee Meeting

Minutes for November 18, 2018

The meeting was called to by President Gayle Chandler at 2:00 p.m in the Dagsboro Town Hall. Present were members: Gayle Chandler, Patti Adams, Jo Montague, Paulette Hickman, Sandie Gerken, Mayor Brian Baull, and Cindi Brought, Town Administrator.

Sandie Gerken moved to approve the meeting agenda. With a second from Paulette Hickman, all signified to approve the agenda.

As each member has already reviewed the minutes, Paulette moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2018 meeting with no corrections or amendments. Jo seconded and the motion passed. Gayle asked if it would be easier for the minutes to be emailed to the committee along with the agenda prior to the meeting to be perused beforehand. We agreed that this would be helpful.

Gayle presented the treasurer's financial report and the cemetery committee budget as presented in the Administrators Report, attached to these minutes. Since the May meeting, we have had total income of \$1536.78, which includes burials and other fees from Melson, Hurley, plus donation from George H. Bunting. We paid out a total of \$2800.00 since the May meeting. Further figures regarding the checking account and the CDs can be found in the attached Financial Report and Administrator's Report.

Any correspondence to report will be covered later in Old and New Business.

REPORTS: OFFICERS, REPRESENTATIVES, ADMINISTRATOR

Patti reported that she and Sandie are still trying to gather addresses for families of those buried at PGC. It was decided that this time of year close to the holidays would not be a good time to request donations, so we have tabled this project to the spring. Patti and Sandie will continue to collect names and addresses.

Meri Jo had nothing to report on the Friends. She is no longer the recording secretary for the group. Sandie mentioned that plans are under way for the annual Olde Christmas Celebration, Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Cindi presented her written report, most issues to be discussed in Old and New Business. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE: The discussion about putting out bids for the

grasscutting for the chapel grounds and the town is being put on the town's agenda. Cindi's opinion is that the DOC did not do as good a job this year all over town. There no fencing to be replaced. A correction to the fence that protruded on a plot has been made by town maintenance.

LOCAL CEMETERY FEES SPREADSHEET: Duane Kenton has prepared a spreadsheet of other local cemeteries fees for burials, corner markers. It was agreed that the data was somewhat confusing and should be redone, especially the column entitled "Regular". It was discussed that the data should be described in columns: Cost per Burial Lot and possibly corner markers, Costs for Opening Grave , Cost for Cremation. The discussion centered on cost of opening grave for a cremation. Should it be the same as for full grave or less as shown on some cemetery's list? PGC Cemetery data should be included on this sheet for comparison. This issue was then tabled for May 2019 pending clarification spreadsheet.

GRAVESITE ISSUES: Bireley/Farmer Update: Joanne Bireley has reviewed the proposal discussed at the last meeting and agreed to transfer their Plot 42, E & F to Plot 42 G & H, and has signed off on that. Now Dr. Farmer has to agree and fill out the paperwork transferring their Plot 42 G & H to Plot 42 E & F. Cindi will contact Doug Brown of Melson's Funeral Home to bring his tool to prod the ground in each area to be sure nothing else is buried there.

Hurley/Williams Lot Corner Markers: The Williams lot is now owned by the Hurley family. Crawford Hurley refuses to pay for and place corner markers on the Williams lot as there is already a low stone wall marking the lot and the corners, plus the old cement corner markers are still in place. Cindi had photos to show how the lot appears with current markings. After discussion and viewing the photos, Sandie moved that we notify Mr. Hurley that new corner markers are not needed as there is sufficient marking for the whole lot. Patti seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Baull received an email from Rob Tunnell, Jr. whose family is responsible for the upkeep of the cemetery of the old Blackwater Presbyterian Church. His daughters, 7th and 9th graders, are looking for community service projects. The girls have cleaned the old monuments at Blackwater and photos were provided. They are requesting to clean up the older monuments in the PGC cemetery using an environmentally safe solution called "Wet & Forget". He claims that it will not damage the old monuments in any way. Gayle mentioned that she tried to research the product. She suggested that we contact the Delaware Div. of Cultural & Historical Affairs and Board of Cemeteries to see if the product is suitable and if we could clean up those stones. Town is responsible for the front sections.

We decided that we would research this product and possibly others before contacting Mr. Tunnell with a response. Tabled until May 2019.

DELAWARE PRESERVATION FUND: We have the paperwork to apply for this grant again, due in December. So far, everything we have applied for has been rejected. It was decided that Cindi should perhaps contact the fund managers to request a list of projects that they have approved or that do fit their criteria. This topic will be discussed again once we have some information of eligible projects.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business presented for the good of the order, Patti moved to adjourn the meeting. Paulette seconded and all assented. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. Date for May meeting to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandie Gerken

PGCC Secretary